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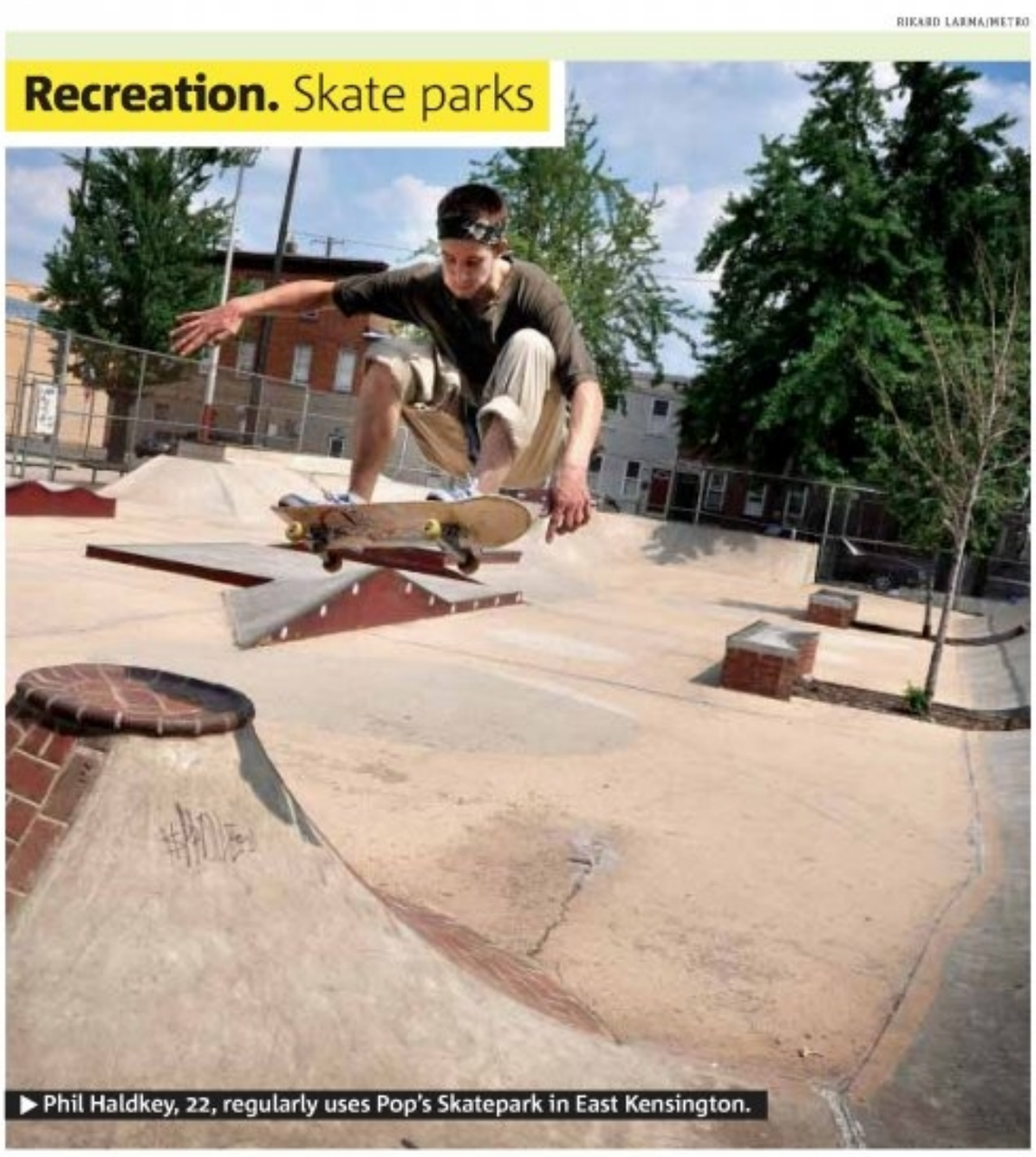
RICARD LARNA/METRO

Recreation. Skate parks



▶ Phil Haldkey, 22, regularly uses Pop's Skatepark in East Kensington.

Put skateboarders in their place

Sick of all those failed kickflips on city sidewalks? A group now has the support of the city Department of Parks and Recreation to build more skate parks throughout the city. An estimated 45,000 skateboarders now have just three skate parks. {page 02}

Oprah says show, fans were her 'great love'

Talk show queen says audience inspired her as much as she inspired them ◐ 25-year run comes to end {page 10}

News

'Fundamental error' in Fumo jail sentence?

Judges debate if disgraced senator was let off easy {page 04}

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Put skateboarders where they belong

In new skate parks, says newly completed first phase of master plan backed by city Parks and Rec

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with Franklin's Paine Skatepark Fund to develop Philadelphia's first citywide skate park master plan. The master plan includes plans to design and make over locations throughout the city to serve as free, public skate parks.

And that could translate into fewer near misses for pedestrians along Center City streets with out-of-control skateboarders trying unsuccessfully to pull off an ollie.

"The more designated skate space, the less people will have to seek out their own places to skate," said Claire Laver, executive director of the skate park organization. Her group for years has pushed for more parks says its goal of "providing educational programming opportunities through skateboarding to local youth" as a reason for the development of the skate parks.

The first phase of the plan is complete, according to Laver. And the plans, which highlight the need for skate parks in the southern and southwestern parts of the city, impressed city Park and Rec chief Michael DeBerardinis.

"We ... hope that through the implementation of projects outlined in this plan, we will be able to engage more residents in utilizing their local parks and playgrounds," he said.

Some expect the city's skateboarding population to explode in years ahead. Laver said there is already an estimated 45,000 skateboarders in Philadelphia.

ALEXANDRA PAULIN
letters@metro.us

PHOTOS: RICARD LABMA/METRO

▶ Skate parks could alleviate constant tension between police and skateboarders downtown.

More skate space

There are currently only three free skate parks in Philadelphia, which comes out to only one for every 15,000 skateboarders that Franklin's Paine Skate Fund estimates exist. The plan would add 15 skate parks.

▶ "We envision a city where no child has to travel further than a half mile to access free, designated skate space." Laver said.

"It can definitely get crowded. We got lucky that there weren't many people here right now."
CHRIS SLADEK, FROM NORTH WALES, WHO TAKES A 20 MINUTE CAR RIDE TO GET TO POP'S SKATE PARK

"Creating more skate parks would be a good place for kids to go and not get into the bad stuff prevalent around here."
CARL CORTEZ, 20, TEMPLE STUDENT

"I think the more the better. It would be a good use of the land and it gives a good sense of community."
PHIL HALDKEY, 22, WHO HAS A 15-MINUTE BIKE RIDE TO GET TO POP'S SKATE PARK

In the news

33

Rank of Pennsylvania among a list of the 50 states based on pedestrian safety, based partly on 1,611 deaths on sidewalks and roads from 2000 to 2009.

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Few details yet to district bailout request

A day after Mayor Michael Nutter said he supported providing up to $110 million in additional funds for the cash-strapped School District of Philadelphia, more than 100 parents and community leaders gathered at City Hall to serve as cheerleaders.

The district is facing dire straits with a $629 million shortfall thanks to cuts in state funding and the loss of federal stimulus dollars. As a result, officials have proposed cutting more than 1,000 teachers, reducing central office staff by 50 percent, eliminating free transportation, and doing away with full-day kindergarten, among other things.

Some Council members acknowledged that they support additional funding, but are both reluctant to raise taxes and hand over the money without additional oversight. SOLOMON D. LEACH

▶ Budget woes

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Fumo jail term is now on trial

Federal three-judge panel heard arguments yesterday for and against longer sentence for disgraced state senator Judge in corruption trial sentenced him to 55 months, less than half of initial recommendations

A federal prosecutor argued before a U.S. Court of Appeals panel yesterday that former state Sen. Vince Fumo should be resentenced to a substantially longer term than the 55 months he received for "breathtaking" corruption and fraud.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Zauzmer said District Judge Ronald Buckwalter committed "numerous procedural errors" in going beneath the 121-151 month sentencing range, a controversial decision he based on Fumo's "extraordinary public service."

There was "no clear record" of how Buckwalter reached his decision and various pieces of evidence were ignored, Zauzmer said, specifically arguing that they were never told whether the reduction was based on a variance or a sentencing departure. They initially sought a sentence of roughly 27 years, but "the facts in the case did not permit a departure on the grounds cited by the district court."

"That sounds like a very fundamental error. If we find it that way, it will require a resentencing," said 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Julio M. Fuentes.

The hearing lasted less than an hour. Fumo attorney Samuel J. Buffone countered that Buckwalter's overall comments offered the necessary explanation. He also said Fumo was "denied the right to an impartial jury" because one juror had gotten outside information during trial. Zauzmer called it "gamesmanship."

Fuentes and Judges Richard Nygaard and Leonard Garth, who appeared via closed-circuit television, did not say when their decision would be reached.

▶ Fumo

No comment

- **Fumo fiancee Carolyn Zinni** and his daughter Allison were among those in the packed 19th-floor courtroom at Sixth and Market streets. They left in a Liberty Cab without comment.
- **Zauzmer also declined** comment after the hearing. "We will be more than happy to discuss it with you after hearing the judgment," he said.

BRIAN HICKEY
brian.hickey@metro.us

RICARD LARMA/METRO

Development. The Ben Franklin Parkway

▶ Visible signs of a $19 million overhaul are marking their way east on the parkway.

Full speed ahead for improvements

Crumbling concrete medians remain on some stretches of the Ben Franklin Parkway between the Art Museum of Philadelphia and Logan Square, but many have already been remade as part of a project first announced by Mayor Michael Nutter and Gov. Ed Rendell. Work is likely to stretch through the summer. METRO

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*U.S. Half Dimes 1873 and Older	*U.S. Large Cent 1857 and Older
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U.S. Half Dimes - 1802 Heraldic Eagle Reverse	Up To	$4,000
U.S. Two Cent - 1864 Small Motto	Up To	$1,000
U.S. Large Cent - 1803 Large Date Small Fraction	Up To	$1,250
U.S. Half Cent - 1793	Up To	$1,250

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The condition and rarity of an item determines its price. If an item is in excellent condition and very rare it might be worth the up to price, or even more. However, if an item is in poor condition, the value will be lower. For example, a 1927 S Quarter could be worth $7,000 in new condition or less than $20 in poor condition. The up to price reflects items of exceptional quality and rarity. Although it is unlikely you will have these items due to their extreme rarity, feel free to bring whatever items you may have and we will evaluate them free of charge.

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*$3.00	1854 to 1889	*$5.00	1908 to 1929		

Your Coins Could be Worth Up To Hundreds — Even Thousands!

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$3.00	1854D	Up To	$10,500
$5.00	1795 Small Eagle	Up To	$52,000
$5.00	1838D	Up To	$10,500
$5.00	1842C Small Date, 1861D, 1864S	Up To	$6,500
$5.00	1909O, 1929	Up To	$6,500
$10.00	1793 13 Leaves Below Eagle, 1796 9 Leaves Below Eagle	Up To	$20,500
$10.00	1859O, 1863S, 1875	Up To	$8,000
$20.00	1856O, 1854O, 1860O, 1861S, 1870CC, 1886, 1891	Up To	$10,500

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Breitling	$15,000	Illinois	$1,500	Chronograph Watches	$16,500
Cartier	$12,500	Jules Jurgenson	$16,000	Ladies Watches	$11,000
Corum	$3,000	LeCourtte	$6,000	Musical Watches	$37,500
Ditishiem	$14,000	Longines	$13,000	Pocket Watches	$62,500
Dudley	$11,500	Movado	$2,500	Regular Watches	$11,000
E. Howard & Co.	$12,000	Omega	$2,500	Repeating Watches	$65,000
Elgin	$750	Rolex	$16,000	Stop Watches	$11,000
Frodsham	$12,000	Seth Thomas	$1,500	World Time Watches	$37,500

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Really like it here! Everyone is very kind, great atmosphere. I have been back 4 times!
— *C. Pace*

It was really fast!
— *A. Davis*

I have been here 2 times and both times the people that work here were very friendly. I would definitely recommend this to my friends!
— *J. Grace*

I heard about this store from the radio and as soon as I got the chance I came to sell my unused jewelry. It was a great & friendly service and I will be back!
— *J. Simek*

Very informative & professional. A relaxed atmosphere & experience.
— *D. Rees*

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Tomorrow, Friday, May 27th 10am-6pm
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4010 City Line Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131
Monument Room

News in brief

Loughner not competent

TUCSON. Shooting rampage suspect Jared Loughner is not mentally competent to stand trial on charges he killed six people and wounded Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, a federal judge ruled yesterday.

A short time later, U.S. District Judge Larry Burns ruled that Loughner, 22, described by his own legal team as "gravely, mentally ill," was incapable of understanding the proceedings against him and assisting in his own defense. **REUTERS**

Not letting up on Gaddafi

LONDON. President Barack Obama warned Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi yesterday there would be "no letup" in pressure on him to go, following a second successive night of heavy NATO bombing in Tripoli.

Six loud explosions rocked Tripoli late on Tuesday within 10 minutes, following powerful strikes 24 hours earlier, including one on Gaddafi's compound that Libyan officials said killed 19 people. **REUTERS**

60%

Number of Americans who do not want Medicaid funding cut and are skeptical of changing how the federal government funds the health care program for the poor, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation survey released yesterday. REUTERS

Death toll from tornadoes climbs in the Midwest

At least 125 dead in Joplin, Mo., where EF-5 tornado hit ◐ Storms take lives in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas

The death toll from a monster tornado that savaged Joplin, Mo., rose to 125 yesterday as tornadoes overnight in nearby states caused at least 13 more deaths.

Bulldozers pushed through rubble in Joplin and search teams pressed through a 6-mile path of destruction looking for survivors and likely more victims, authorities said. At least 823 were injured by the tornado that hit Sunday at dinnertime, and an estimated 1,500 remain missing.

MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Kimmy Lankford walks with her son Jack, 5, through their neighborhood yesterday in Joplin, Mo.

Eight died in Oklahoma, while Arkansas officials confirmed three deaths, and two deaths were confirmed in Kansas from a line of several tornadoes that roared across the Midwest overnight.

As the storm system moved eastward, Arkansas, northern Mississippi, southern Illinois and Indiana were at the highest risk for devastating tornadoes.

In Newcastle, south of Oklahoma City, a storm blew the steeple off Jesus Alive Church and flung it nearly 100 yards away, where it landed on the doorstep of the longtime pastor's 86-year-old mother, Lovina Frizzell.

"I said 'Oh, my goodness, there's the steeple,'" Frizzell said. "Yes, it's quite a mess." **REUTERS**

Furious 5

- **The Joplin tornado** was rated an EF-5, the highest possible on the Enhanced Fujita scale of power and intensity, with winds of at least 200 miles per hour.
- **EF-5 tornadoes** are rare in the United States, but already this year there have been at least four. They are so destructive that experts said they can turn a house into a missile.

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Tom Hill
CGA STAFF WRITER

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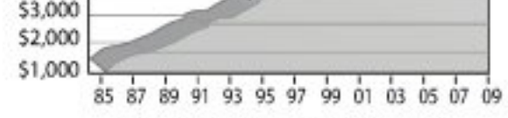

(Data Source: U.S. Federal Reserve)

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Ancient sea monster no shrimp

New fossil evidence uncovered from ancient sea beds in the Moroccan desert is causing scientists to revise their conclusions on a predaceous shrimp-like creature that ruled the waters for millions of years, LiveScience reports.

Anomalocaridids — soft-jointed monsters sporting pointy backs of flexible blades and mouths full of sharp teeth — sat at the top of the food chain for millions of years longer than previously thought, scientists say following the discovery of remains dating back to the early Ordovician era. It was previously thought the creatures had died out toward the end of the Cambrian age.

"They were really at the top of the food chain, the uncontested top predators of their time." VAN ROY

What's more, the newly discovered specimens are a lot larger than their longer-lived cousins: 3 feet long, to be exact.

"The Moroccan specimens are the largest anomalocaridids known to date," said paleontologist Peter Van Roy.

BRAYDEN SIMMS
brayden.simms@metro.us

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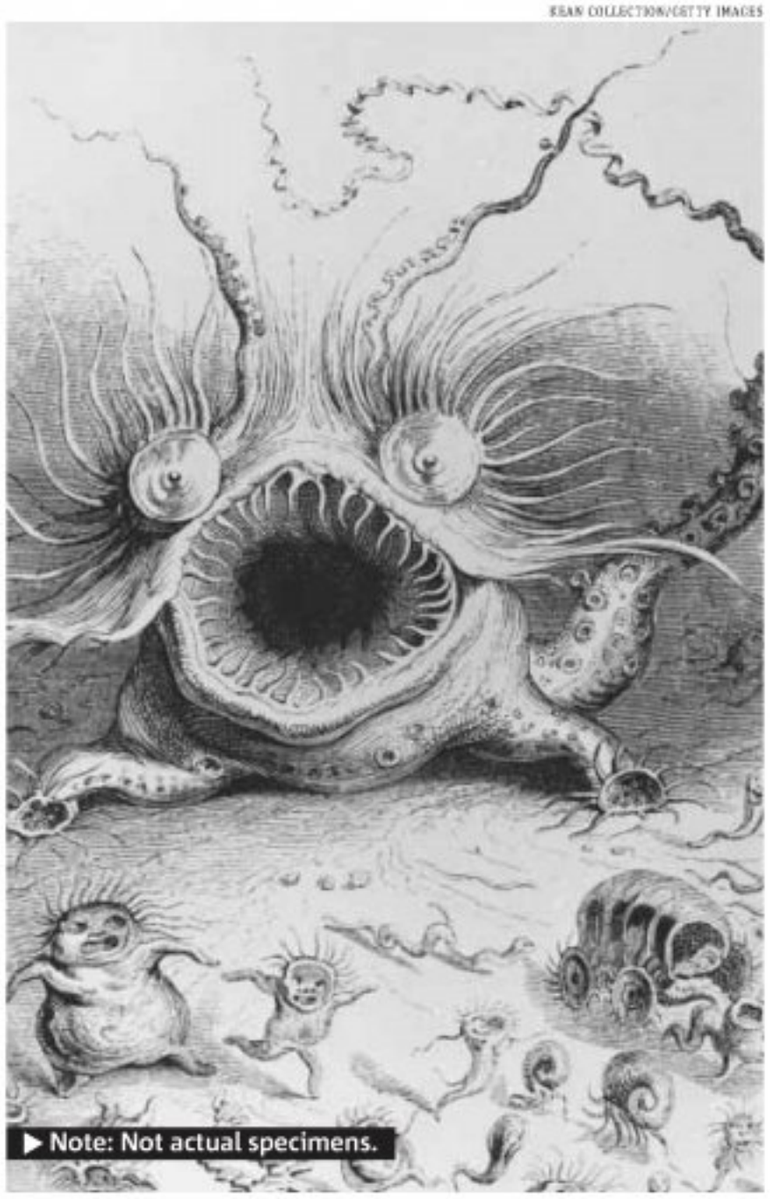

▶ Note: Not actual specimens.

Diageo takes shot at tequila purchase

LONDON. Diageo, the world's biggest maker of spirits, is in talks with the owners of Jose Cuervo tequila over extending a distribution deal or buying it outright for over $2 billion, sources familiar with the matter told Reuters.

The London-based group distributes the world's best-selling tequila in most big export markets outside Mexico and is currently talking with the Beckmann family owners about what happens when this long-term contract ends in June 2013. REUTERS

Spirited history

The original Jose Cuervo began cultivating agave cactus plants — from which tequila is distilled — in the 18th century. His son Jose Maria Guadalupe Cuervo won the country's first license to produce a tequila predecessor in 1795.

Ash cloud settling

REYKJAVIK. Iceland's volcanic eruption has died down and is no longer spewing out ash, officials said yesterday, and airlines began to get back to normal after cancelling about 1,000 flights in northern Europe.

European air traffic agency Eurocontrol said it expected the ash cloud would dissipate overnight and did not see any significant disruption to travel in Europe on Thursday. REUTERS

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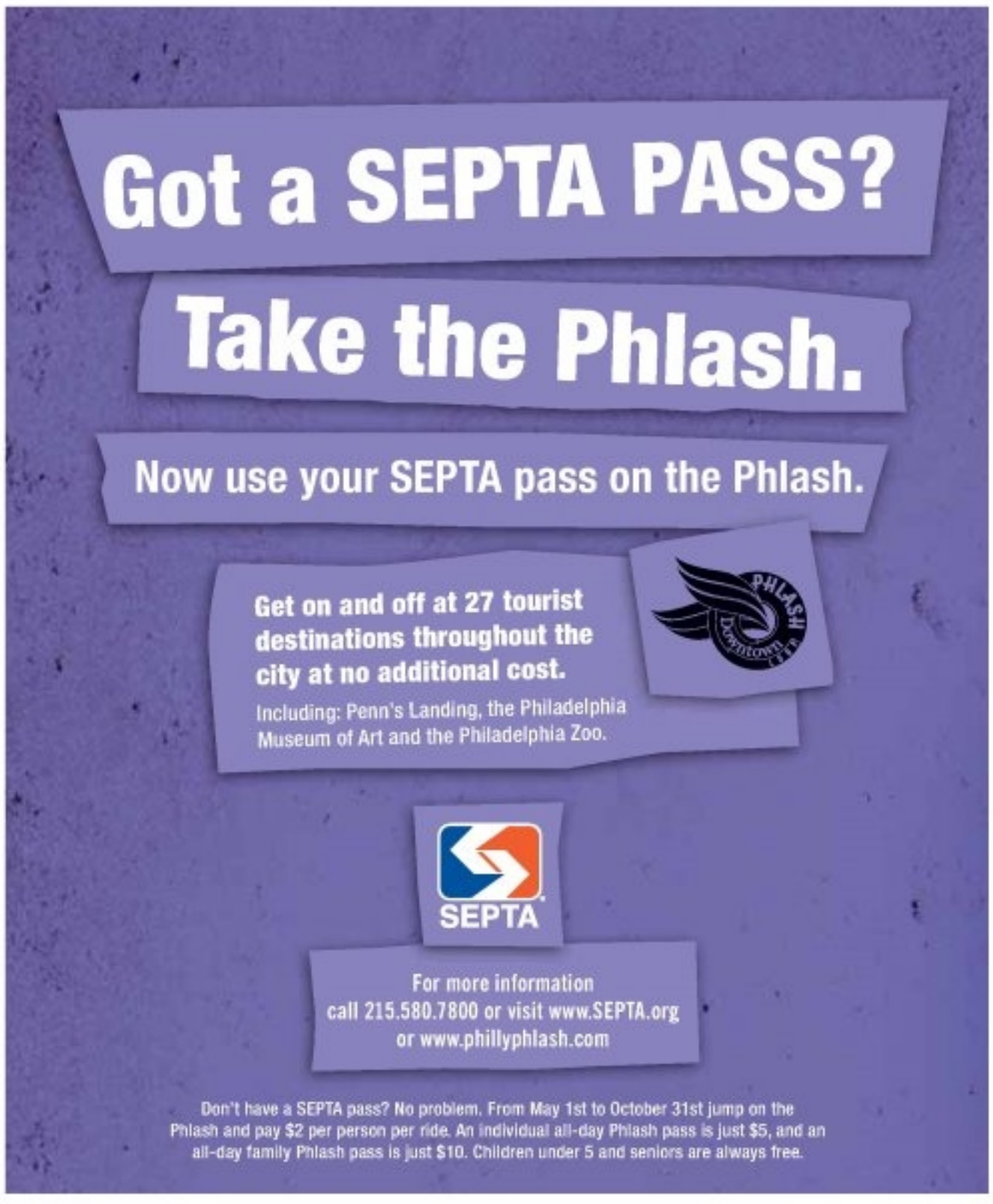
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Scotty the new 'American Idol'

A record 122 million votes were tallied, and after a two-hour finale filled with celebrity-studded performances of karaoke favorites, Scotty McCreery beat out Lauren Alaina to be named the Season 10 American Idol.

The 17-year-old country crooner from Garner, N.C., won over viewers with renditions of Montgomery Gentry's "Gone," George Strait's "Check Yes or No," and his first single, "Love You This Big." For full details on McCreery's "Idol" tour dates with the other Top 11 singers this summer, visit www.americanidol.com.

AMBER RAY

KEVIN WINTER/AMERICAN IDOL 2011/GETTY IMAGES

▶ The first single from the Garner, N.C., native will be "Love You This Big."

This one's for the fans

After 25 seasons, Oprah Winfrey signs off daytime television with a show celebrating her viewers as much as her success

For 25 years "The Oprah Winfrey Show" played out like a compelling scripted drama. There were triumphs (the building of a media empire), revelations (the admission that she was sexually abused as a girl) and betrayals (the takedown of author James Frey, who fabricated a portion of his memoir, an Oprah Book Club pick). At the center of it all was the woman herself, a gifted orator and force of positive energy whose warmth was welcomed into millions of homes every afternoon.

And like the best scripted dramas, when it came time to wrap things up, Oprah chose a business-as-usual approach: no car giveaways, no A-list celebrity guests. Similar to the low-key ending of the Oprah favorite "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" — Mary surveyed her workplace, smiled, shut out the lights and quietly left in the final scene — Oprah's final hour with her audience was just that: Oprah chatting with her viewers.

"The Oprah Winfrey Show" may be over, but it's not the end of Oprah.

$1M

Advertisements airing during the "Oprah" finale reportedly garnered $1 million per 30-second spot.

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"You and this show have been the great love of my life," she told fans gathered for the episode, which was taped at the Harpo Studios in Chicago on Tuesday. "I thank you for being as much of a sweet inspiration for me as I've tried to be for you. I won't say goodbye. I'll just say, 'Until we meet again.' To God be the glory."

With that, she walked through the teary crowd and headed backstage, where she hugged her staff, picked up her beloved dog and said, "We did it, Sadie."

AMBER RAY
amber.ray@metro.us

The many faces of Oprah

All facets of the force that is Oprah Winfrey were on display during yesterday's finale:

The media mogul

The hourlong trip down memory lane detailed how the show morphed from a rowdy chat fest about "people making bad choices" into a celebrity-filled, lifestyle-focused show.

The self-help guru

"You are responsible for your own life," Oprah preached in an hour packed with her brand of joyful self-empowerment. "Your life is speaking to you. What is it saying?" she asked, telling viewers to find their calling. The power of positive energy, too, is a mantra she shared: "What is all life? What is every flower, every rock, every tree, every human being? Energy. And you're responsible for the energy you create for yourself, and you're responsible for the energy that you bring to others," she said.

The worldly big sister

The hour was not without self-congratulation. The finale spotlighted Oprah's ability to address social stigmas — sex abuse, drug addiction, sexual orientation — in a smart, candid and very powerful way. "Little by little we started to release the shame," she said.

The celebrity magnet

Two star-studded episodes celebrating Oprah's life and work preceded the finale this week, but she dedicated her last hour to the everyday fans that made her a star. Still, Tyler Perry, Maria Shriver and Suze Orman were spotted in the audience for her final show.

▶ Oprah BFFs Gayle King and Maria Shriver participated in a special sendoff for the host earlier in the week.

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Ahhhnold: The fallout continues

It's been little over a week since **Arnold Schwarzenegger**'s secret love child was revealed, and the epic fallout continues.

First update: **Maria Shriver** will likely be filing for divorce by the end of the week, according to Entertainment Tonight. And there are reports that the former California first lady is said to have hired a private investigator to dig into husband Arnold Schwarzenegger's past. "The investigator will likely look into the claims that he fathered multiple children, outside their marriage," a source tells Radar Online. "Maria has heard the rumors, and she wants to find out one way or another if those claims are true." Another person completely caught off-guard by news of Schwarzenegger's son with former employee **Mildred Baena** is her ex-husband, **Rogelio Baena**, who tells Entertainment Tonight he thought the child was his and only learned the truth a week ago. "Arnold for me, [was] my hero," Rogelio says, calling the situation a "betrayal" and adding that he still considers himself his son's father.

This is a bigger mess than "Jingle All the Way" — and that's saying a lot.

Baby daddy: Schwarzenegger

www.metro.us
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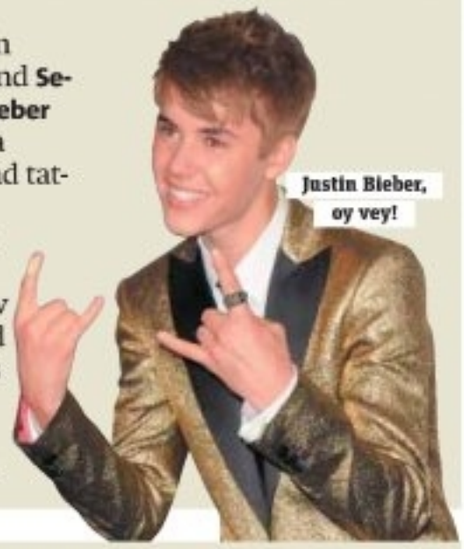
DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

Hebrew is the new Chinese symbol for tattoos ...

While on vacation in Hawaii with girlfriend **Selena Gomez**, **Justin Bieber** let paparazzi catch a glimpse of his second tattoo, according to Hollyscoop. The 17-year-old pop star now has the Hebrew word for Jesus inked down the side of his rib cage. Last year, he got his first tattoo, a seagull, on his hip; it matches his father's tattoo.

His second tattoo at 17?! Jesus! Oh, excuse me, that should read: ירצונה ושי!



Justin Bieber, oy vey!

Kim Kardashian's engagement

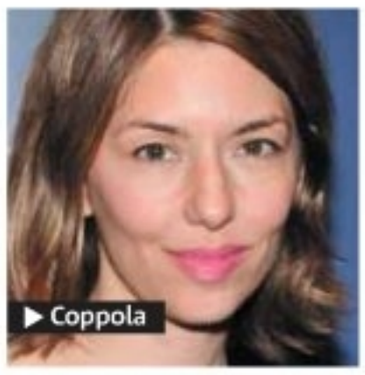
Kim Kardashian and **Kris Humphries** got engaged. There's nothing else you really need to know about this union other than her ring is worth a whopping $2 million. The 16.5-carat emerald cut center stone is flanked by a pair of 2-carat trapezoids, for a total weight of 20.5 carats, reports People. "It's the most beautiful thing I have ever seen," says Kardashian. Humphries had a hand in designing the ring, giving the designer these specifications: "I just knew I wanted it to be big!" Funny, he has the same requirements about asses, apparently.

Talking points

Just who is Olivia Wilde dating?

Just a month after being spotted out with **Justin Timberlake**, recently divorced **Olivia Wilde** is reportedly dating **Bradley Cooper**, according to Life & Style. "Olivia was Bradley's date," a source says of the two, who attended the "Hangover Part II" premiere party in New York together. "He was always taking her hand or putting his hand on her lower back, it was really sweet. He took care of her all night." Other attendees of the party concur: "They were definitely together," adds another source. "They seemed really comfortable with each other."

▶ Wilde



▶ Coppola

Sofia Coppola to get hitched

Sofia Coppola is planning to marry her longtime boyfriend and the father of her children, French rocker **Thomas Mars**, according to Us Weekly. The happy couple will reportedly exchange vows at Palazzo Margherita, **Francis Ford Coppola**'s 19th-century villa in southern Italy. Coppola and Mars have two daughters: Romy, 4 years old, and Cosima, 23 months. Coppola was previously married to director **Spike Jonze**, but they divorced in 2003.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Hammer

Armie locks lips with Leo

For his latest film, "J. Edgar," "Social Network" star **Armie Hammer** faced a new challenge: making out with **Leonardo DiCaprio**. "It's the same kind of thing as if you walk onto a set and they hand you a machine gun and [say], 'Shoot this like you know what you're doing.' — You kind of have to go, 'OK, I know what I'm doing,' and you've just got to go for it," Hammer tells Just Jared. "It wasn't weird — I have never kissed a guy — it's not something I'm going to do in my private life."

2

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or less.

Today, Garry Shandling is accepting the inevitable, Taylor Swift is celebrating, Pink is having a tough pregnancy and Joel McHale is entertained.

▶ **@GarryShandling**
We all end up on twitter. Welcome!

▶ **@taylorswift13**
It's the guy who played Chewbacca's birthday today so we made a cake.

▶ **@Pink**
this baby just drop kicked me in the ribs. fight fair!

▶ **@joelmchale**
Saw @johnlegend destroy at the Sony TV event tonight. His voice melted three women that were standing too close. So good.

Taylor Swift

myentertainment

COURTESY OF MADHOUSE THEATER

▶ "Playing Leni" opens Friday at the Adrienne Theatre Skybox (2030 Sansom St.). Visit www.madhousetheater.org for tickets and more info.

One tough act to follow through

The story of filmmaker and Nazi propagandist Leni Riefenstahl isn't the easiest to tell How dark comedy 'Playing Leni' made it to the stage

After 15 years, one production, one staged reading and two writers, David Robson's true vision for a play exploring the chameleon-like personality of influential filmmaker and Nazi propagandist Leni Riefenstahl is finally coming to the stage.

It just took reconnecting with an old friend to make it happen — and a whole lot of work.

About five years ago, the Delaware County Community College professor sent some sketches to Philly-based Madhouse Theater Company, without any inclination that his former college buddy, John Stanton, was co-founder of the company.

"I felt funny about continuing the campy humor without any foot in reality, but I thought the project was more than my one brain could handle."
STANTON

When they decided to meet in a Center City coffee shop, Robson mentioned his long-defunct script about the post-WWII interrogation of Riefenstahl, which had a small production but hit a dead end. Stanton was fascinated by the concept and began writing a campy Riefenstahl character that appeared in Madhouse's Late Night Cabaret. "With that subject matter, I could only poke fun for so long," says Stanton. "I felt funny about continuing the campy humor without any foot in reality, but I thought the project was more than my one brain could handle."

Soon Robson and Stanton had co-authored a full-length dark comedy. "Leni i's this woman that has worn many masks throughout her life. She's had to be a lot of things to a lot of different people to survive as an artist in Nazi Germany," says Robson. "But there needs to be a moment where all of the masks are off, and she's forced to confront the reality of what Hitler did."

BRUCE WALSH
bruce.walsh@metro.us

The backstory

Leni Riefenstahl died in 2003 at 101 years old. Her films are often appreciated for visual and technical innovations, but derided for pro-Nazi sentiments. Reifenstahl was supportive of Hitler during WWII, denying any knowledge of his crimes.

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Dax Shepard: A very family-oriented man

GETTY IMAGES

▶ "Dax Shepard's actually not that terrible."

The 'Parenthood' star chats about working with his fiancee Kristen Bell and his new film 'Brother's Justice'

For his directorial debut, "Parenthood" star Dax Shepard decided to take on Hollywood, making a mockumentary about his attempts to ditch comedy and become an action star in the ill-advised "Brother's Justice" — with a little help from friends like Ashton Kutcher, Bradley Cooper and his former agent. But as he made clear during our chat, nothing makes Shepard happier than working with — and heaping praise on — fiancee Kristen Bell.

What made you want to make a Hollywood satire?
Making a Hollywood satire is probably the easiest thing to shoot if you live in L.A. and are friends with lots of actors. It's the equivalent of making an auto movie if you live in Detroit.

Like friendships with people like Ashton Kutcher and Jon Favreau. What are your relationships with them like?
You know, super-loving, supportive friendships. I look at Hollywood as this opportunity to go through high school all over again, but this time I like everyone. I've gotten along with everyone I've ever worked with, and I try to maintain my friendships. Even like Josh Hutcherson, the young kid who was in "Zathura." I still go out to Bob's Big Boy with him all the time.

Did anyone say no to being in the movie?
No! I was really shocked, because it's a pretty big favor to ask. But I'm not a big favor-asker. I never asked anyone to come help me move or anything like that. And I tried to make it as easy on them as possible.

Was that your actual agent in the movie?
That was my actual agent, Greg Segal. He left the business shortly after we filmed that scene — maybe six months later he just quit agenting all together.

What are you directing next?
I'm doing an indie car chase movie, like a Sundance version of "Smokey and the Bandit." Kristen and I are the leads.

How has your profile changed since 'Parenthood' debuted?
People say nice things about me in reviews now. [Laughs] But I noticed there seems to be a pattern where all the positive acclaim came with a disclaimer, like, "I know you're not going to believe this, but Dax Shepard's actually not terrible." I guess for my mom, it's nice because people are saying nice things about me.

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Q&A: Love scenes

How is working with Kristen?

It's heaven. I love working with Kristen. What's even more fun than acting with Kristen is writing for her. As a writer, you can write anything and Kristen can do it. Whereas when I'm writing for myself, I have to be realistic about what my limitations are. With Kristen, I can write any scene that's ever been written in a movie and she can do it.

TV watch list

▶ Think you can dance? These guys will be the judge.

FOX

'So You Think You Can Dance'

REALITY. The Hot Tamale Train, once fueled by unrestrained enthusiasm, might have to put the brakes on that trademark squeal when Mary Murphy returns as judge after recovering from a cancerous tumor removed from her throat last year. **Season premiere, 8 p.m., Fox**

'Secret Diary of a Call Girl'

COMEDY. Belle must choose between "dates" and settling down to actually date the man she loves. **Series finale, 10:30 p.m., Showtime**

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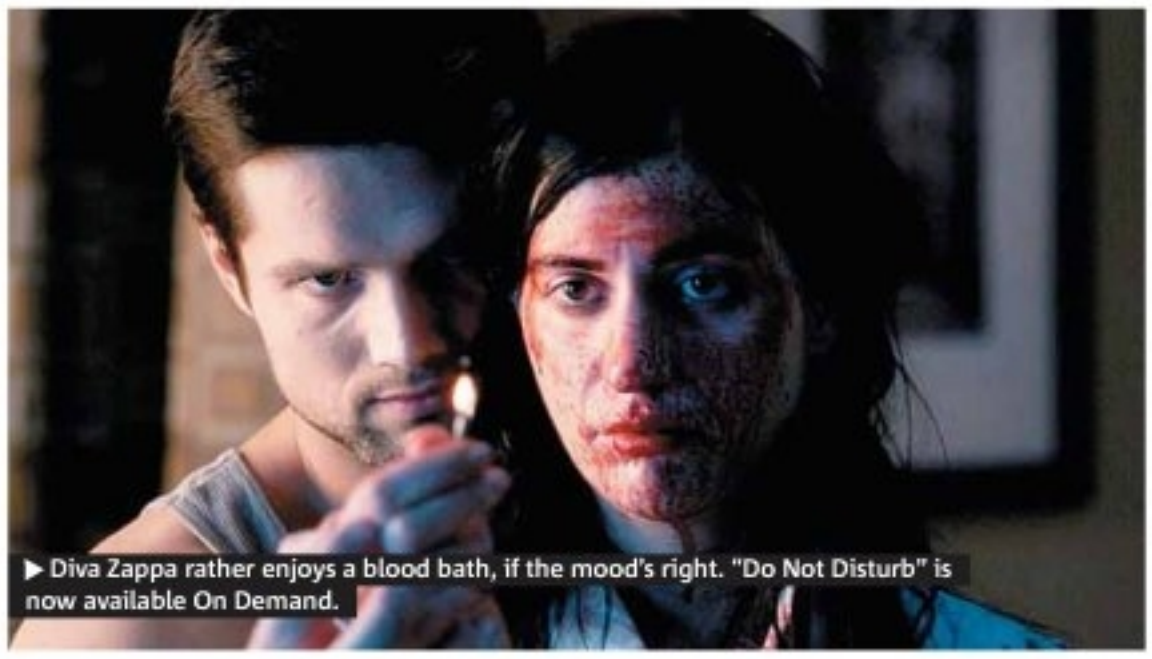

▶ Diva Zappa rather enjoys a blood bath, if the mood's right. "Do Not Disturb" is now available On Demand.

Diva Zappa will not be disturbed

Frank Zappa's little girl is all grown up and starring in 'Do Not Disturb' Why she enjoyed working with five directors — and the fun of getting dirty on the job

In "Do Not Disturb," five directors offer five different takes on what goes on behind the privacy tag of a very busy hotel room — with a quiet and curious maid, played by Diva Zappa, as the constant element throughout. The actress spoke to Metro about working with multiple directors and the fun of getting doused in blood.

Your character is the constant element through all the sections of the film. How was that?

That was a surprise. It just kind of happened while we were on set. They just kept putting me in, saying, "Go walk in — and say something, if you want to." I really didn't know what I was in for, and every day was a surprise. Every day was a new adventure, because new crews were brought in every day.

That sounds like a really unique way to make a project.

Yeah, it was. To work with five different directors in such a short amount of time, it was amazing training to recognize what you don't need to get involved in so you just keep your head down and work on your own stuff.

Is there a section of the film that you're most fond of?

Yes. I hate to say it, but yes. All of the directors are amazing, and each of them gave me an experience I've cherished, but I had the most fun in Jon Mann-Krieger's piece because that was when I first got to be sprayed with blood.

You did look pretty cool covered in blood.

I know, how weird is that? I'm in another movie where I got covered in blood, and the pictures of me in blood — I'm, like, stunning. It's very strange. Very, very weird. I love it. It's really fun to get dirty, and I don't get to get dirty that often. It's one of my favorite things, if it's in a safe situation and I know I can go take a shower — which actually I didn't really do on that set, because on the first day of blood, it got clogged and there was a problem. When lunch would be called, I couldn't move my hands to eat, so we had to put gloves on me. But it was pretty interesting and fun.

Q&A: On tour

Have you had any weird hotel experiences in your own life?

No, personally I can't think of any, but I do know my family has seen some pretty interesting things. Because, you know, my father toured a bunch, so we traveled a little. My brother actually found a hidden door in a hotel hall, I think, and pulled it open because he just decided there was a door there — and he was right — and inside was a dildo. Very strange.

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METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Walking around with his head in the Cloud Cult

Craig Minowa on love, loss and the quest for 'Light' The creative process of assembling a cohesive concept album can be a consuming endeavor

Craig Minowa wasn't very good company while he was writing Cloud Cult's epic album, "Light Chasers."

"If you learn the tool of knowing how to write at any given moment of the day, you also learn the tools of how to not be present," says the singer, with an almost guilty chuckle, "because you're sitting there at the family get-together and your head is still drilling over a song and you're on auto-pilot physically, and you're working out lines and kinks here and there."

Minowa seems to have worked out all those lines and kinks though, as "Light Chasers," which came out in September, is a thorough and majestic concept album that deals on several levels with the weighty issues attached to finding the meaning of existence.

An essential component to understanding the Cloud Cult story is knowing the tragedy that Minowa and his wife Connie went through. In 2002, their son Kaidin died unexpectedly, which led to a period of separation for the couple and an extended period of mourning and introspection for the songwriter. The band persevered, the couple got back together and a son named Nova was born to them in 2009.

"After Kaidin passed away, he was sort of the emissary for me, where I could reach out and I felt like I had a gatekeeper that was always with me and offered that guidance and information that I needed," says Minowa about the sense of peace that accompanies the existential angst on the album. "But the whole idea of trying to figure out where we go in the afterlife and the big, grand mystery has been a theme even prior to when we lost our son. I think it's an inherent thing that I have as an artist, and in using music as a tool. The main thing I want to use it for is this journey of pontificating and philosophizing about what the big picture is."

If you go

Cloud Cult
Tonight, 8
World Cafe Live
3025 Walnut St.
$13, 215-222-1400
www.worldcafelive.com

▶ Minowa, front, and Cloud Cult reach for the sky.

The big picture

A new part of the Cloud Cult live experience includes a video projector to help with the narrative of "Light Chasers." But this doesn't mean that the band is getting rid of their tradition of having Connie Minowa and trumpet player Scott West doing paintings throughout the set.

"Actually, we've stepped it up. Now we've got easels that spin," says Craig Minowa.

And after each show, they auction off the artwork to help them finance touring as an eight-piece band.

"Every tour has a couple that are hard to watch go," says Minowa about the actual paintings, "but the people that get them, we're really lucky to have some really beautiful people come out and support us, so when you meet the people that are going to take the paintings home, you have a pretty good idea that the painting is going to be honored."

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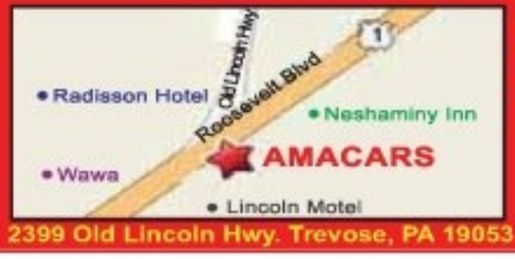

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going out

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▶ Same story, new laughs: Zack Galifianakis, Bradley Cooper and Ed Helms star in "The Hangover Part II," in theaters now.

10 Reasons to cool off in theaters this weekend

2 'Kung Fu Panda 2' Martial arts performing animals join forces again against an even more insidious enemy. The voices of Jack Black and Angelina Jolie return.

3 'Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides' This Disney franchise's fourth installment is such a big deal that no other studios dared to put out a major release on the same weekend it came out. This time around, Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) pairs up with Angelica (Penelope Cruz) for another swashbuckling adventure.

4 'Bridesmaids' As every woman knows, a good friend's wedding means drama, eccentric and annoying long lost friends and overimbibing. Expect all that, but funnier from SNL ladies Kristen Wiig and Maya Rudolph in "Bridesmaids" this weekend.

5 'Priest' The last time we saw Paul Bettany, he was opening his mouth freaky-wide for that apocalyptic film, "Legion." Now he's in post-apocalypse mode as a priest out to avenge his niece in a world besieged with vampires.

6 'Hesher' Unlikely subject enters the lives of a broken family, throws it into chaos and maybe helps them be the ideal family they never knew they could be. And this time, the subject is a metalhead, played by Joseph Gordon-Levitt.

7 'Everything Must Go' Will Ferrell plays a hapless lapsed alcoholic whose wife locks him out of the house, with all of his possessions thrown on the front yard. Opportunities for funny? Plenty. But this film brings the drama too.

8 'Thor' So many things are odd about this: a comic book movie directed by Kenneth Branaugh and co-starring Natalie Portman, and it's in IMAX 3D. Will the Shakespearean director be able to produce empty-headed fun with Chris Hemsworth as the lead? By the hammer of Thor, we hope so.

9 'Something Borrowed' Is it just us, or is Kate Hudson constantly playing the jerk who always wins? In this one, she steals Ginnifer Goodwin's man, but we'd be happy to see Goodwin's character end up with co-star John Krasinski anyway.

10 'Jumping the Broom' This wedding tale set on Martha's Vineyard shows two African-American families clashing over their divergent economic backgrounds.

METRO

Must-see

'The Hangover Part II'

1 The men of "the wolf pack" are back for another evening of unintentional debauchery, this time in Bangkok.

Cocktail of the week

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Letters

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Oprah nothing but a thief!

RE: "OPRAH AND OUT": Once again the most unoriginal person in the history of television rips off one of the greats. In her final attempt to feign sincerity, Oprah copies her final show format from the real pioneer, Johnny Carson. Reminder: She got famous by ripping off another genuine trailblazer, Phil Donohue. **MICHAEL CHIMENTI, VIA E-MAIL**

More than just a little cheating

RE: "POWERFUL PHILANDERERS": Dr. Alpert fails in his analysis of DSK and Schwarzenegger to identify them as sexual predators. DSK is accused of raping a maid; Schwarzenegger fathered a son with his maid and has been accused of other acts of sexual harassment. Men such as these use their political and celebrity status to shield them from greater scrutiny, if not prosecution. Alpert is wrong to cite political and celebrity status as powerful aphrodisiacs: The Sofitel maid was not seduced by her attacker. The power relationship makes seduction impossible. **MICHAEL BENJAMIN, VIA E-MAIL**

Well, well, well, Mr. Nose It All

RE: "THE SMELLS BUSINESS STINKS": Rich Feinberg thinks women's perfume is a waste of money. Most men I have known like a natural women's scent accented by perfume, finding the combination attractive. Women too like scent on men. It's a matter of personal preference. **CHERYL HEARN, VIA E-MAIL**

Greedy students cause this pain

RE: "US EDUCATION LEFT BEHIND": Deadbeat graduates who don't pay off student loans cause our education woes. Millions of Americans have benefited from being able to attend college on student loans; this has given them access to joining the middle class. Sadly, too many students then stuck Uncle Sam with the bill. Despite being successfully employed, there are several hundred thousand former students who refuse to pay off their student loans. Taxpayers are left with billions of dollars in uncollected debts and there is less revenue to support educating the next generation. Collecting some of these outstanding debts could help reduce our $14 trillion in long-term debt. Why not deny federal and state tax refunds to those deadbeats who look for a free ride at our expense? **LARRY PENNER, VIA E-MAIL**

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Horoscope

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Having a clearly defined objective will allow you to achieve the success you're seeking. Attempting too many things at one time could defeat you.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** If you treat developments philosophically and refrain from taking yourself or life too seriously, you'll be able to defuse any potentially problematic situation that arises.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Although you might hear about something that could produce a second source of income for you, don't just blindly jump into it. Check it out first to see if it fits into your life.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** A couple of people whom you're depending upon to help you develop your plans might put some limitations on the way they'll assist you. Meet their desires, unless you've got options.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Even though you might experience some social limitations, situations that affect your income or career should go rather smoothly for you.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** It is the very people with whom you pal around who will have the strongest influences on your outlook and attitude. It behooves you to associate only with the winners of the world.
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** When involved in a competitive development, the secret to success is to be consistent. The final results will show the wisdom of assiduous toil.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** You are likely to be good at gathering and disseminating information, and you'll be eager to share what you learn with others. Get to work.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** You are lucky because you have the potential to garner large material returns from not one, but two, unrelated sources simultaneously, if you're clever enough to tap into them.
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Although it behooves you to protect your interests, be careful not to confuse assertiveness with aggressiveness. Go after what you want, but do so without being pushy.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Pay attention to any hunch you get, but don't ignore your logical side either. Both intuition and reason have their merits, and you should be able to use them in tandem with one another.
♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Even when you have little to cheer about, continue to be hopeful about the outcome of events. If you keep plugging, chances are the results will be to your liking. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

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56 Boat crane
58 Orchid-like flower
59 Bronze coin
60 "Forget" a letter
61 Pack down
62 Nail containers
63 Put away neatly
64 Dash

Down
1 Rabbit feet
2 Yaks and gaurs
3 Late-night Jay
4 E. hemisphere (2 wds.)
5 Blues' Ms. Washington
6 Complies
7 Grass droplets
8 Mobster's piece
9 911 responder
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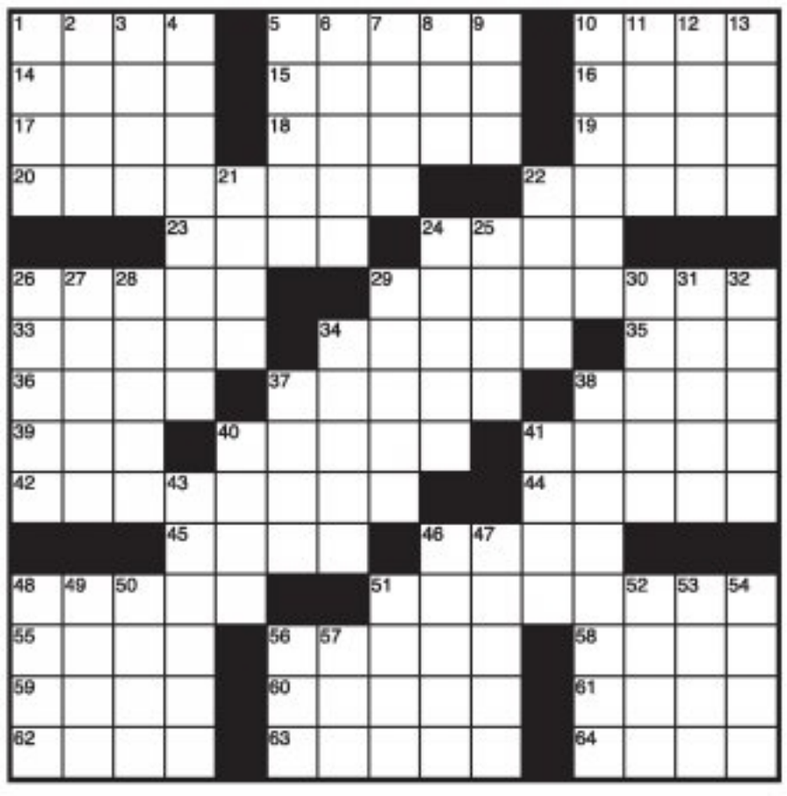
37 Whipped-cream serving
38 Building lot
40 Opened a crack
41 A real clown
43 Bounces
46 Water or rust
47 Chose
48 Diamond, slangily
49 "En garde" weapon
50 __ shui
51 Malicious
52 Mountains or river
53 "Green Mansions" girl
54 Sports channel
56 Telephone trio
57 Ring champ



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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

5					6	1	4	
		3		4				
		4	5	8			3	
	3	6					9	4
	4						7	
9	8					2	1	
	5			2	3	9		
				7		4		
	7	2	8					1

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS: WWW.METRO.US/PUZZLES

Solution to yesterday's crossword

S	M	A	S	H		R	E	B	A		P	R	A	M
H	O	S	T	A		I	L	L	S		A	E	R	O
A	T	T	A	R		G	L	O	P		T	R	I	O
W	H	A	T	S	W	H	A	T		C	E	A	S	E
		S	H	O	T		S	H	I	N	N	E	D	
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ADAM LEVITAN GIVES WEEKLY FANTASY ADVICE

Citizens Bank Park gets an extreme makeover

Female Phillies fans flock to ballpark for Baseball 101 Clinic ◗ Coaches, players happy to offer perspective on game they love ◗ Polanco, Amaro, Perlozzo, Samuel highlight event

PHOTOS BY ROSEE RAHN

▶ Phillies fans run the bases with third-base coach Juan Samuel.

Chicks don't just dig the long ball. Some women enjoy every aspect of the game of baseball.

That was the case for the female Phillies' fans that attended the organization's annual Baseball 101 Clinic yesterday at Citizens Bank Park.

Women had the opportunity to pitch in the bullpen, don catcher's gear and learn the subtleties of America's favorite pastime. There have been 10 clinics since 2006, with each one selling out in minutes. The next one is scheduled for Aug. 23.

"It was one of the best days of my life," said Maryann Butler, of South Philadelphia. "I loved coming out to the ballpark and getting to pitch, bat balls and find out some things. We got to meet Placido Polanco — and he was so sweet."

Jessica Ambrose is a baseball neophyte, who is married to a die-hard fan.

"I've only been watching baseball for three years," the Abington resident said. "I've been asking my husband questions and have gotten more and more into it. So it made sense for me to come here. I learned about scouting and about the signs the players get from [third-base coach] Juan Samuel, who was so nice."

Kira Liples, of Doylestown, was looking for tips she can pass along to her 3-year-old son.

"I got great advice from [first-base coach Sam] Perlozzo about how to teach your kid how to catch a baseball," Liples said. "This was a great Mother's Day present. I want to thank Perlozzo."

For the coaches, it was just as enjoyable. Perlozzo never misses the event.

"I love it," Perlozzo said. "I enjoy the questions. They're paying attention. The reality is that women are a huge part of our fan base."

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The Baseball 101 clinics have raised more than $184,000 for Phillies charities since 2006. Tickets for the Aug. 23 event go on sale June 1. Go to www.phillies.com for more information.

▶ Placido Polanco smiles for the cameras.

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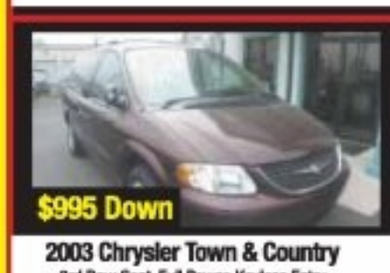
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NFL news

Open Gates

▶ The toe and foot injuries that ruined **Antonio Gates'** 2010 campaign are now behind him, according to coach Norv Turner. Gates didn't need surgery and is still only 31. Aggressive owners should gamble on sustained health.

Figuring out who is a good fantasy baseball player seems simple. It isn't. Due to the scarcity of certain stats, the value of studs can be hidden.

The best way to mine for these hidden gems is using a player rater. Since we are about 30 percent through the season, we can draw some conclusions. Here are some guys that are better fantasy players than you think:

Stubbs your toe

In real baseball, **Drew Stubbs** is considered a rising star that needs more seasoning. In fantasy, he's already in the top-20. Even though he hits just .266, he steals at will and scores heaps of runs atop a potent lineup.

Dan the Man

We don't think of **Dan Haren** as being in the same tier as **CC Sabathia**, **Tim Lincecum** and **Felix Hernandez**, but we should. He's ahead of all three in the player rater thanks to his annually dominant WHIP and strikeout rate.

King Andrew

Andrew McCutchen isn't playing well right now. He's getting moved all over the lineup and hitting .246. But he's still hovering around the player rater's top-50 thanks to his power/speed combo. Imagine where McCutchen will be once he gets hot.

Drew Stubbs is more valuable in fantasy than he is to the Reds.

Top MLB pickups

Dustin Ackley

▶ **2B, Mariners**
Seattle can't keep trotting out Jack Wilson. Ackley's defense is a concern, but his pop makes up for it.

Brett Lawrie

▶ **2B/3B, Jays**
The prospect is crushing in the minors right now and a June call-up is likely. Big bat at scarce positions.

Jason Isringhausen

▶ **RP, Mets**
Francisco Rodriguez is an extremely strong bet to get dealt at the deadline, leaving Izzy as the Mets' closer.

MLB closers

It's getting really messy in the bullpens. These three are worth owning:

1 Fernando Salas, STL — The Cards have tried all their hard-throwers, but Salas is the best pitcher they have back there. He is a good bet to run with the job.

2 Kenley Jansen, LAD — With Jonathan Broxton and Vicente Padilla hurt, the Dodgers are going by committee. Jansen has the best stuff.

3 Octavio Dotel, TOR — Frank Francisco just isn't good enough and Jason Frasor is a setup guy.

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Opinion

JASON McINTYRE
PLAYING THE FIELD
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"The Hangover" was one of those movies where you walk out of the cinema and text your friends or update your Facebook status. I still remember my initial impressions: Bradley Cooper was hilarious, Andy Bernard, er Ed Helms, was going to be a star and Zach Galifianakis was funny, but a bit overrated.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send submissions to letters@metro.us.

'THE HANGOVER': ATHLETE EDITION

The sequel, "The Hangover Part II," hits theaters nationwide this weekend, and I'm not as stoked as everyone else. Doesn't it look like all the same jokes? Or are they trying to be ironic? I'd rather see a "Wedding Crashers" sequel. In the spirit of the "ultimate guy movie" we present to you … the worst athlete regrets and hangovers:

▶ **Kris Humphries** — When the Nets' hulking forward is presented with a lucrative free-agent offer from the Indiana Pacers this summer and **Kim Kardashian** decides he doesn't quite fit into her plans — we don't see her turning into a Hoosier State fanatic like **Leslie Knope** — I wonder if he'll miss the paparazzi shots on the beach and the red carpet premieres?

▶ **Anna Kournikova** — Remember when she retired from tennis in 2003? Injuries were cited as part of the reason, but it seemed like a curious move at best since she wasn't even 25 and had no other discernable talent besides looking nice in magazines. She went through a bout a few years back where she appeared alarmingly skinny. Eight years after her retirement, she seems to have found a new job: She's going to be a trainer on "The Biggest Loser." I don't see this ending well. Her stuffy personality makes **Kristin Cavallari** seem charming. There's a reason her movie/TV career hasn't taken off yet.

▶ Alan (Zach Galifianakis) is a better fit for Kim K. than Kris Humphries.

Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries have only been dating six months.

▶ **Dennis Rodman** — The Worm was once a wide-eyed youngster with the Pistons who just collected rebounds. It's been 20 years of unforgettable memories: He's dressed in drag, married and divorced **Carmen Electra** and has put more strippers through college than **Charlie Sheen**.

▶ **Bernard Hopkins** — The Philly boxer and former convict recently popped off about former Eagles' QB **Donovan McNabb**, essentially saying he wasn't black enough. Hopkins was trashed in the media from coast to coast. When McNabb signs with the 49ers this summer and magically leads them to a Super Bowl, I hope he mocks the Executioner (and **Rush Limbaugh**) from the podium.

▶ **Tiki Barber** — Everyone thought he was making a brilliant decision to walk away from football with fuel left in the tank. A future in broadcast TV beckoned! Well, he bombed at NBC, and then couldn't get a job anywhere else after he made the foolish decision to cheat on his pregnant wife. The divorce will cost him millions. His only move? Go back to football. Good luck, Tiki.

– Jason Raj McIntyre covers athletes off the field and runs TheBigLead.com

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Let me explain...

For the better part of my life; I purposely avoided of a lot of foods. Especially ones with even a tiny bit of seasoning. Because if I didn't, I'd experience a burning sensation through my esophagus— like somebody poured hot lead or battery acid down my throat. Add to that, those disgusting "mini-throw ups" and I was in "indigestion hell".

"I was beside myself. What was I gonna do? Keep taking the pills, or suffer with problems that could ultimately be my demise".

Doctors put me on all sorts of antacid remedies. But nothing worked. Or if they did, it would only be for a brief period. And then boom! My nightmare would return.

Sometimes, I felt like I was dying. The pain was unbearable and nothing could make it stop.

But then my wife, who occasionally suffered with the same problem; gave me one of her prescription acid blockers. It was a miracle. I felt like I could live again. Because before that, I was just miserable. I wanted to kill myself. But thankfully, it worked, and worked well.

I felt great, until about one year ago; when I read an FDA warning that scared the heck out of me. It went something like this...

FDA WARNING! Using proton pump inhibitors (PPIs) on a long term basis, increases your risk of hip, bone and spinal fractures. That's a particular concern to me, since many acid blockers are PPI's. I've gone through two back surgeries and bilateral hip replacements. I had to ask myself, could PPI's have been responsible for my medical woes? After all...

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I was "between a rock and a hard place". Stop using the PPIs and I'm a "dead man in the water". It would be unbearable. I wouldn't be able to eat anything. I'd have to go on a water diet.

But that FDA warning was scary. I knew I had to stop or else risk developing spinal stenosis. My mother had that. And I watched her die a horrible death. Her spine just fractured. It was the worst death. She didn't deserve that. And neither do I.

"Every time I ate something that didn't agree with me... I'd get what I called 'Rot Gut' — like my stomach was rotting out!"

I had to quit. So I stopped taking PPI's for a day or so. But my indigestion was worse than ever. I would rather take the

63-year old Ralph Burns enjoying a spicy-hot portion of Lobster Fra Diavolo. Just 15-Minutes after taking AloeCure®

chance of a spinal fracture than to live like that again. I tried everything. Even started using home remedies like Apple cider vinegar. But it just felt like I was pouring even more acid down my throat.

Then one day at dinner, a friend of mine said "why don't you try an aloe drink?" I said "aloe drink"? Jeez. That doesn't sound good at all!" The next day he brought me a case of something called **AloeCure®**. I was skeptical, but I was desperate! So instead of being an ingrate I decided to try it.

I was shocked! **AloeCure®**. Tasted pretty good too. It has a pleasant grape flavor that I actually enjoy drinking. I decided to experiment. I stopped taking the PPI's altogether and replaced it with a daily diet of **AloeCure®**. Then something remarkable happened... NOTHING! Not even the slightest hint of indigestion.

And here's the best part. The next day we had Italian food — my worst enemy. But for the first time in 40-years I didn't get indigestion without relying on prescription or OTC pills and tablets. Finally, I just didn't need them anymore!

I was so thrilled; I wrote the AloeCure® company to tell them how amazing their product is. They thanked me, and asked me to tell my story... the story that changed my life. I said "Sure, but only if you send me a hefty supply of AloeCure®. I just can't live without it.

But don't believe me. You have to try this stuff for yourself. I recommend AloeCure® to anyone who suffers with the same problem I did. It gives you immediate relief. You'll be grateful you did. I sure am. It's the best thing that's happened to me in a long, long time.

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Lockout affecting ratings, tickets

Goodell admits NFL fans are frustrated, unhappy Draft day viewership down Website traffic, too

Turns out, absence does not make the heart grow fonder.

Fans are starting to lose interest in the NFL as its labor dispute rages on, according to Roger Goodell. The league's commissioner added that TV ratings, tickets sales and website traffic have all taken a hit during the 10-week lockout.

"It has clearly had an impact on our fans already," Goodell said yesterday at spring meetings in Indianapolis. "You see that in our various metrics that we have, whether they are ratings or traffic on NFL.com — and that is a reflection of the uncertainty and the frustration of our fans."

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Goodell

Goodell said ratings for this year's player draft, normally one of the game's out-of-season highlights, were down by four million viewers.

4M
TV ratings were down by roughly 4 million people on draft day. NFL ticket sales and NFL.com website traffic are also down.

"Fans want certainty," Goodell said. "I don't think you can ever underestimate that fans are still going through difficult challenges just in the general economy. Those challenges continue to impact their decisions, and rightfully so." REUTERS/METRO

'Steelers rule' gets social media shot

The "Steelers rule" is what it's being called. And players aren't happy about it.

One day after the NFL outlined a new proposal to punish teams for multiple flagrant hits, including stripping draft choices, Steelers players voiced displeasure via social media.

"Thoughts on "the steelers rule"??? lol im sorry that im not sorry we hit 2 hard," LaMarr Woodley wrote.

James Harrison didn't hold back, either.

"I'm absolutely sure now after this last rule change that the people making the rules at the NFL are idiots," Harrison wrote.

Roger Goodell said his objective was to make the game safer. METRO

"I'm absolutely sure now after this last rule change that the people making the rules at the NFL are idiots."
STEELERS LB JAMES HARRISON ON HIS TWITTER ACCOUNT

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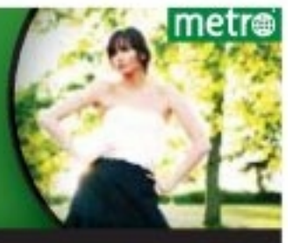
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style

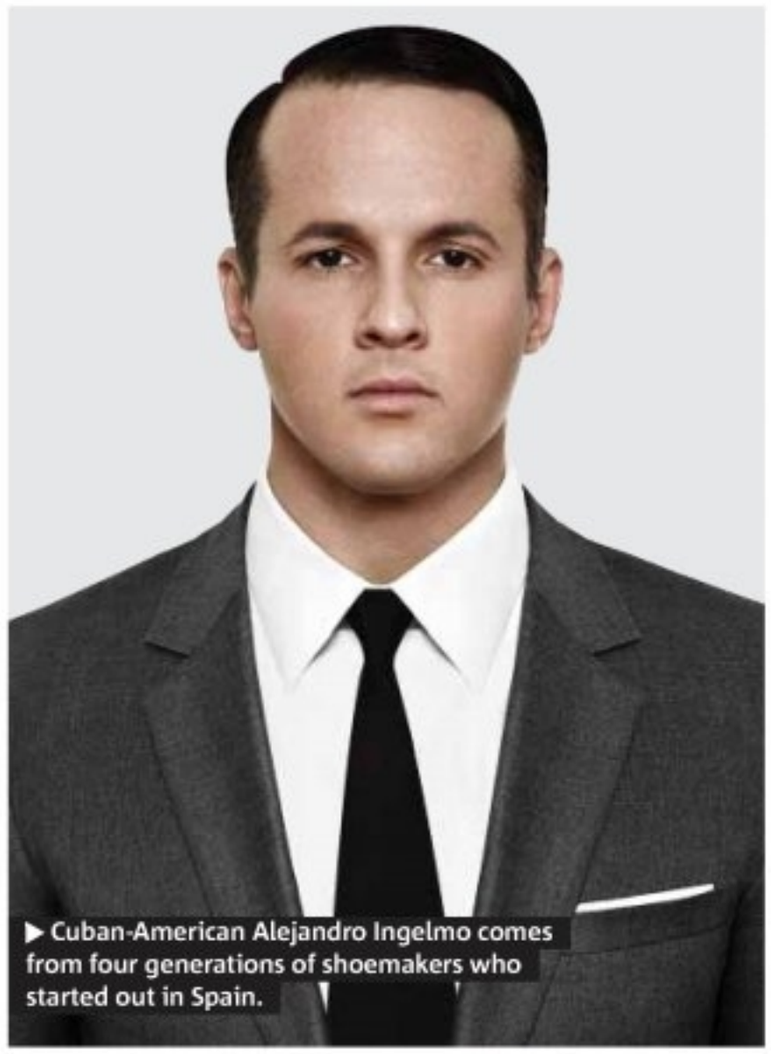
Fashion's future sole star

Alejandro Ingelmo is a fourth-generation shoemaker who is up for a prestigious CFDA award, for the second time ◗ He likes sci-fi and hates kitten heels ◗ We met in London to talk footwear

It's warm and humid outside, and his London showroom doesn't have air conditioning, but Alejandro Ingelmo somehow manages to look cool, clean and crisp in his white button-down shirt and tie as he walks us through his collection. His classic, slightly restrained, retro appearance is a bit deceptive, though. This is a man who makes shoes that ooze sex of the futuristic, rock 'n' roll variety that appeal to megacelebrities like Beyonce Knowles, Jay-Z, Madonna and Justin Timberlake. Women who frequent the mecca that is his New York store have claimed that his tall stilettos elicit visceral reactions like shortness of breath and heart palpitations. Lucky for you, his e-commerce shop will launch in a few weeks.

Has the fact that you come from such a long line of shoe cobblers helped your career at all?
Well I think I had a harder time. I went to Parsons and went in a totally different direction from my family. I didn't get any help from them. My dad is proud of me, but he doesn't understand what I do at all [laughs].

Are there any common footwear faux pas you see on the street that make you wince?
I hate those platform shoes with the see-saw on the bottom. What are they called? They're supposed to get rid of cellulite. But what's the point of those things? They're so bad, and they're everywhere. And I know you girls like them, but Uggs are just Ugg-ly.



▶ Cuban-American Alejandro Ingelmo comes from four generations of shoemakers who started out in Spain.

"When I wear the shoes, I want to feel sexy in them. I think we all want that."
ALEJANDRO INGELMO

Are there any trends that you feel especially excited or bummed out about now?
I really wasn't into the kitten heel at all. I'm like, either make the effort and commit yourself to the high heel or just wear flats. The kitten heel is just not that sexy.

Do you think that shoes should make a woman look sexy?
I like for my shoes to make a woman not only feel sexy, but confident and strong. And it's the same with my men's shoes. When I wear the shoes, I want to feel sexy in them. I think we all want that.

Speaking of men's, you have a huge sneaker pimps following. The Tron style is especially hot right now. Are you a big sci-fi fan?
Oh yeah. I had the Tron Atari game when I was young. It's funny because when I opened my store in New York, I thought I'd have all women's and just a little section of men's shoes. But now it's half women's and half men's. It's fun designing for both.

KENYA HUNT
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Q&A: Watch your step

What are some common mistakes that you see women make when they purchase and wear heels?
Well, a lot of them should practice first. Don't buy more height than you can handle. When a woman goes to the store, she should ask about the pitch of the shoe. That's something that most women don't think to do, but that's what really determines how high the shoe is. It's not so much about the heel, it's all about what's happening inside the shoe. And make sure that the shoe can hold your foot in. You don't want to be walking down the street with your toe slipping out. I think shoes are like clothes: You want to show just the right amount. When a toe hangs out of the shoe, that's like the footwear equivalent of bad cleavage.

Style in the city

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technology

Lots of fun in 'L.A.'

Sidescroller

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L.A. Noire
Company: Rockstar Games
Console: PS3/360
Rating: ●●●●●

▶ Creepy! This RPG may be spooky, but you've got to play the good guy — it's compulsory.

Rockstar has a love of locations and themes not often seen in video games. Red Dead Redemption tackled the American West. Bully was set in a prep school. "L.A. Noire" moves the company's keen vision to Los Angeles in the 1940s. The result? Something innovative and unique. In this world of sequels and easy-to-peg genres, that is to be cherished.

The game casts you as an L.A. cop, fresh out of the army. You work cases and slowly unravel a larger mystery. As is standard with Rockstar games, there is a large open world to explore. The company took great lengths to recreate 1940s Los Angeles and it shows. Still, exploring and causing trouble isn't the point. You have cases to work.

Therein lies the main difference from its spiritual predecessor, Grand Theft Auto. You can only use violence when necessary. You are a good cop, after all. Don't worry. There is still plenty of gunplay and high speed chases. The meat of the game, however, is actual detective work. You explore crime scenes, interview witnesses and arrest suspects. Interrogation is the most fun. Thanks to a technology called MotionScan, you'll be interviewing actual people. The actor's performances were filmed and then their faces were scanned and laid on top of their avatar. This means you actually have to watch for tells as people talk.

Everything about this game shines. The cast is top notch, featuring literally half the cast of "Mad Men." The graphics are some of the best of the current generation, even allowing play in black and white. "L.A. Noire" might not satisfy people who just want to drive around a city and blow stuff up, but everyone else will get to experience something really special.

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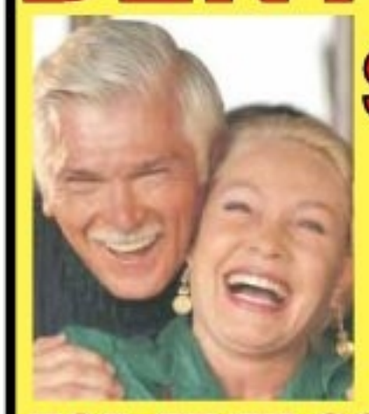

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